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Dated: December 22, 2004 Signature:

Georgina Matos
(Georgina Matos)

Docket No.: 578762000100
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Kesavan ESUVARANATHAN et al.

Application No.: 10/086,973

Group Art Unit: 1635

Filed: March 1, 2002

Examiner: R. Schnizer

For: METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR
DELIVERY OF PHARMACEUTICAL
AGENTS

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT AND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Restriction Requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed October 7, 2004 (Paper No. 090604), for which a response was due on November 7, 2004. A petition and fee for a two month extension of time are submitted herewith, extending the deadline for response to January 7, 2005. Accordingly, this response is timely filed.

Also submitted herewith is a Preliminary Amendment, for which Applicants respectfully request entry prior to examination on the merits.